

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Parking meter (100) with an input device for means of payment and with an indicating device (7, 8, 9) for indicating a paid parking time and with a central control device (6), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a return device is provided for the return payment of an amount of money corresponding to the parking time which has not been used and a visual indicating device (7) is provided for indicating an amount of money which has not been used.
2. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the input device and the return device is a read-write unit (2) for a chip card (1).
3. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a code can be assigned to the chip card (1).
4. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 3,~~ claim 1, wherein a selection device (3) is provided for the selection of a parking time to be paid and/or of a parking space, in particular a keyboard.

5. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein it is provided with a battery.
6. (Currently Amended) Method for running a parking area, in particular with a parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 5, claim 1, wherein~~ claim 1, wherein a parking time is paid in advance to a parking meter via an input device, ~~characterized in that, wherein,~~ if the parking time is terminated before expiration of the already paid parking time, the corresponding amount of money is returned by a return device and is reproduced by a visual indicating device (7).
7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the payment and the return payment takes place with a chip card (1).
8. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a codification of the chip card (1) takes place.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the claims 6 to 8,~~ characterized in that claim 6, wherein a parking time and/or a parking space is selected.

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the claims 6 to 9,~~ characterized in that claim 6, wherein the parking meter is operated with a battery.